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May 8th

THOS. P. DAVISON, THOS. A. JONES
JAMES J. MARTIN, Asheville
DAVIDSON, MARTIN & JONES.
Attorneys and Counselors at Law.
Asheville, N. C.
Will practice in the 10th and 12th Judicial Districts of North Carolina and in the Supreme Court and the Federal Court of the Western District of North Carolina.
May 8th

J. A. TUNNANT,
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EXILED FOR FORTY YEARS.

THE FAMOUS PARKMAN CASE RECALLED.

Students Banded Together to Release Him—Why They Did Not Attempt to Carry out Their Plot—A Ship on an Iceberg.

From the Boston Herald.

Captain J. W. Smithson arrived at Kansas City recently from the City of Mexico. This is the first time he has paid a visit to the United States in forty years. He is a chemist in the employ of the republic of Mexico. The story of his self-imposed, lifelong banishment from this country forms a chapter in the celebrated Webster-Parkman murder case and has never been told until he repeated it himself to a reporter.

It was one of a party of ten students at Harvard College who vowed to liberate "Prof. Webster," (who murdered Parkman and cut up and burned his body) he said. "We held secret meetings and bound ourselves to release Prof. Webster or die in the attempt. There was great doubt at the time among us of his guilt. To this day I have never believed that he had a fair trial. He was a brilliant man, and it seemed terrible to us to see him put away like a common criminal."

It was agreed that, should any party to the plot betray it, he should be put to death. The plan devised promised to be so effective that no one cared to tell it, and I should not be willing to reveal it now, but I have ascertained that all my fellow conspirators are dead. Our meetings were held in a boat in the Charles river, and the plan was to release the direction of Prof. Webster and one of his most intimate friends. Our plan was to dissolve the locks of the jail by a chemical solution, the secret of which I still possess. The formula was accidentally discovered by Prof. Webster himself. "We had two plans to get rid of the guards. One was to explode phials filled with gases, driving them out. The other was to start a number of fires at the jail by chemical combustion. We had arranged with a schooner to take Prof. Webster to South America, and had disguised ready for him in a small boat. He apprised the lawyers of the plan, and they opposed it. They were confident they could acquit him. Prof. Webster declined to escape, owing to their representations, but they mismanaged the case. Immediately after he was hanged I went to Mexico, and I've been there ever since."

Mode an Iceberg.

From the New York Herald.

The steamship Portia, now here, it was said by her passengers when they landed, had a narrow escape from destruction by colliding with an iceberg. Her captain said:

"I was sailing at full speed, it is true," said the captain. "The iceberg was directly in our course. Just as we got abreast of it the furthest portion ahead of us tipped so that its submerged part rose directly in our course, lifting us about out of (I see) the water, and more than three or four feet of water under us."

"We had run squarely upon a shelf about one hundred and twenty yards from the main body of the berg. Then the combination of the berg, raised a wave that swept onward while we were trying to go ahead. I signalled the engineer to proceed at full speed. That was the critical moment. Had the berg continued to roll it would have carried us over and under. Had not that wave helped us, our ship would have been high and dry on that mountain of ice."

"We let a broad streak of red paint on that ice deck, and the wave that saved us swept quantities of ice aboard."

A Frank Ward \$150,000.

From the Detroit Journal.

Frank Ward is a character at St. Louis, several years ago he met with an accident that made him a mental wreck. In about half right, don't you know. He has made his money in the engine houses for years, but to every one, and was the man who saved Kate Clifton's life at the Southern hotel fire. Don't blame him for that; the poor fellow didn't suppose Ward would resume the stage. Well, Ward has had a windfall and he will soon be courted by the St. Louis belles, who regard money and brains as almost essential in a husband; money—absolutely so. This break had a brother in New Orleans, and that brother had money—about \$150,000. He died one day last week, and as there were no other heirs, the St. Louis man gets the whole pile, except such as shall be grabbed up by the St. Louis lawyers and those lawyers know his business.

Pain Struggle With a Tiger.

From the London Daily News.

Details are given in the Indian papers of the painful death of Mr. Howard, of the Norfolk regiment, from the injuries received in a struggle with a tiger. Mr. Howard was shot near Malabar, on the west coast, when he suddenly came upon a tiger. He fired and wounded the animal, which fled into the jungle. Mr. Howard an hour later came across the tiger in the open. The animal charged at him, and Mr. Howard in firing missed. Two natives ran away. Though a third remained and was successful in shooting the tiger, he did not succeed in time to prevent it from seizing and inflicting serious injuries on Mr. Howard. From these he was at first expected to recover, but he died suddenly, to the great regret of his regiment, one morning shortly after his exciting struggle.

Poor Pay for Good Work.

From the Chicago Tribune.

"Anything wrong with the coffee this morning, John?"
"No, it's good enough."
"Biscuits all right?"
"I haven't any fault to find with the biscuits."
"Steak cooked about right?"
"I don't see anything wrong with the steak. What are you driving at, Maria?"
"My complaint to make about anything?"
"No. What in the world do you—"
"John, I wish you would let me have 50 cents to buy some ribbons."

The Britany Girls' Petticoat.

From the Indianapolis Journal.

In Brittany a curious matrimonial custom prevails. On certain fete days the young ladies appear in red petticoats, with white or yellow borders around them. The number of borders denotes the portion the father is willing to give his daughter. Rich white band, representing silver, denotes 100 francs per annum, and each yellow band denotes gold and becloens 1,000 francs a year. Thus a young man who sees a face that pleases him has only to glance at the trimmings of the petticoat to learn what amount accompanies the woman.

Mixed the Combination.

From Lippincott's Magazine.

THE COSTLIEST PICTURE.

How Meloson Came to Make the "1814" That Sold for \$200,000.

Meloson's "1814" was painted twenty-eight years ago. At about that time Delahante, a French financier with a passion for the fine arts, called at Meloson's studio. The painter was busy with a very little picture.

"What is this picture to represent?" asked Delahante.

"A military subject, which I have entitled '1814,'" was Meloson's response.

"Your subject is very big, but your canvas is very small. M. Meloson, why don't you paint a large picture?"

"I have sketched in the picture thus small," explained the artist, "for two reasons: first, because it is after my own style of painting; and second, I must confess it openly, because I am in need of money. I work very slowly, and therefore can complete a small picture much sooner than a large one."

"You need money! Paint my picture then. What will it cost?"

"Twenty-five thousand francs."

"Humph! that is a good deal of money." Delahante drew a purse from his pocket, however, and counted out 25,000 francs on the artist's table.

"I will also to have your picture, '1814,'" he continued, "but on the express condition that you paint it on a large canvas." Some time afterward Meloson finished Delahante's portrait. When the financier called to look it over, Meloson showed him the first sketch of the picture "1814," asking, "Is that big enough for you?"

"Exactly, and what shall you charge me?"

"Seventy thousand francs."

The picture was finished and paid for, and was first exhibited in the summer of 1864. It was recognized at once as a great work. A little later came the great Franco-Prussian war, then the Commune. The picture, it was planned, should be sold in England for 500,000 francs, but the negotiations came to naught. Some time afterward one of the Vanderbilts offered 400,000 francs for it. Delahante consulted with Meloson, who advised him: "Don't let the picture go for so little money. It is worth much more."

Delahante listened to this advice and promised the artist 50,000 francs should the picture be sold for more than the amount of Vanderbilt's offer. Since 1864 Delahante had paid annually \$100 insurance on the picture. Last year when it was exhibited in the Palais des Beaux Arts the insurance premium was as high as \$800 or somewhat more.

Such was the condition of affairs when a short time ago M. Bague, a famous connoisseur of paintings, came with the offer of 500,000 francs. Delahante could not resist, and agreed to sell the picture. Then the question was, "For whom did Bague buy it?" The next morning every one knew the answer.

Bague's principal in the purchase was M. Chancelier, former director of the great magazine in the Louvre. He had offered his representative 550,000 francs for Meloson's masterpiece. Consequently in twenty-four hours M. Bague, by a mere turn of the hand, had made 350,000 francs in cash. Miller's "Ancestors" had brought 600,000, and Muriel's "Ascension" 650,000 francs.—New York Sun.

That Mischiefous Phonograph.

George Osborne's marital infidelity dates from the day on which he first became fascinated by a phonograph.

He had read a great deal about the wonderful possibilities connected with the instrument, but he had never seen one. He was persuaded by an eloquent canvasser one day not long ago to rent a phonograph for use in his office.

He spent several hours learning how to manipulate the machine, and on the afternoon it arrived the clerks and office boys deserted their work to watch Osborne with his new toy.

That evening Osborne described to his wife the remarkable achievements of his phonograph; how it reproduced a song sung by his head clerk and a banjo solo performed by one of the boys. Osborne was always an entertaining talker at dinner. He believed that jesting and digesting have a very close connection with each other. His wife was very much impressed with his description of the phonograph, and determined to go to the office on the following morning.

Osborne told his wife that he was going to spend the evening at the club. Instead of so doing, however, he went to his office and played with the phonograph until midnight. He had never been so happy since the day his wife accepted him. During the evening he listened to the instrument some version of a love ditty that he had recently heard at the club.

When Mrs. Osborne reached the office in the morning she found that her husband had gone out on a matter of business. One of the clerks offered to operate the phonograph for her. She was delighted with the instrument. The couple sang and the banjo solo pleased her extremely, and she laughed heartily to hear her husband reciting "Bingen on the Rhine." Then he began to sing. Mrs. Osborne's face grew grave. "I stood by her side to-night."

"Did she know that fair haired woman—who had made me curse my fate?" This was awful. Mrs. Osborne burst into tears and left the office hurriedly. All this happened some weeks ago. Osborne is still trying to convince his wife that no fair haired woman ever sung to him in the glowing, and that he has no personal acquaintance with a love that came too late.—Washington Post.

The Ideal Suburban Site.

Stating it directly, the best work enables us to approach by a drive upon one side, alight at an entrance porch, enter by a entrance hall, advance thence into the hall, and through it out upon the veranda, and so on upon the lawn. This is the simple result, and the reason is as simple. The entrance is for access, the hall, veranda, lawn and the prospect beyond belong to the private life of the house. Tradesmen or visitors, however welcome, cannot be dropped into the midst of the family group. Even the welcome guest wishes to cross the threshold and meet the unstretched hand and cordial greeting within. Even Liberty hall must have its defense.

ALMOST REACH THE SKY.

HEIGHTS OF THE MOUNTAINS ALL ABOUT US.

A LIST THAT IS WELL WORTH KEEPING.

A Table of the Altitudes of Western North Carolina Mountains That Everybody Will Want.

Below will be found a list of the different mountains of Western North Carolina with their several altitudes. The measurements are from Arnold Guyot. The list is as follows:

VALLEY OF THE SWANSONA.

One ft. above sea.

Junction of Flat Creek with Swan-son River.....2,250

Joseph Steyer's house.....2,260

Burnett's house.....2,270

Lower Mountain house—Jesse Steyer's floor of piazza.....2,275

W. Patton's cabin end of carriage road.....3,244

Kesting Place brook behind last log cabin.....3,255

Upper Mountain house.....3,246

Ascending to Toe River Gap—passage main branch above Steyer's.....3,902

IN THE BLUE RIDGE.

Toe River Gap between Potato Top and High Pinnacle.....5,188

High Pinnacle of Blue Ridge.....5,701

Rocky Knob's south peak.....5,700

Big Spring or Rocky Knob.....5,680

Grey Beard.....5,448

CRAGGY CHAIN.

Big Craggy.....6,090

Bill's Craggy.....5,935

Craggy Pinnacle.....5,945

BLACK MOUNTAIN MAIN CHAIN.

Potato Top.....6,295

Mt. Mitchell.....6,582

Mt. Gibbs.....6,591

Steyer's Gap—the cabin.....6,103

Mt. Hallmark, or Sugarloaf.....6,403

Black Dome, or Mitchell's high peak, or Clingman of State maps.....6,707

Dome Gap.....6,452

Balsam Cone, Guyot of State maps.....6,671

Hairy Bear.....6,610

Gap.....6,234

Black Knob.....6,619

Cattail Peak.....6,611

Rocky Tail Gap.....6,582

Dear Mt. North Point.....6,233

Long Ridge South Point.....6,208

Little Gap.....6,250

North Point.....6,250

Bowen's Pyramid—North End.....6,348

NORTHWESTERN CHAIN.

Blackstock's Knob.....6,380

Yeates' Knob.....5,975

CANEY RIVER VALLEY.

Green Ponds at Tom Wilson's highest house.....3,222

Tom Wilson's new house.....3,110

Wheeler's opposite Big Ivy Gap.....2,942

Cattail Peak—junction with Caney River.....2,871

Sand Gap, or Low Gap—some-what out of (I see) the water.....3,174

Burnsville—Court house square.....2,849

Green Mountain near Burnsville, highest point.....3,419

GROUP OF THE ROAN MOUNTAIN.

Summit of the road from Burnsville to Toe river.....3,138

Toe River Ford on the road from Burnsville to Roan Mountain.....2,431

The Great Bald summit.....2,479

Brigg's house, foot of the Roan Mountain—valley of Little Rock creek.....2,755

Yellow Spot, above Brigg's.....5,157

Little Yellow Summit—highest.....5,196

The Cold Spring—summit of Roan Mountain ridge.....6,132

Roan High Knob.....6,220

Roan High Knob.....6,206

FROM BURNSVILLE TO GRANDFATHER MOUNTAIN.

South Toe River Ford.....2,532

Toe River Ford, near Aunt's.....2,545

North Toe River Ford, below Clingman's.....2,652

Blue Ridge—head of Brushy creek, Linville River Ford, below head of Brushy creek.....3,297

Linville River, at Ferry's.....3,091

Headwaters of Linville and Watuga River, foot of Grandfather Mountain.....4,100

Grandfather Mountain summit.....5,897

Watuga river at Shull's mill pond.....2,917

Taylorsville, Tennessee.....2,295

Whitespo, Virginia.....5,530

FROM BURNSVILLE TO THE BALD ROX.

TAIN-OBSERVATIONS MADE BY PROFESSOR W. C. KERR, OF DAVIDSON COLLEGE—COMPUTED BY ME.

Sampson's Gap.....4,130

Egypt Cave at Proffitt's.....3,520

Wolf's Camp Gap.....4,550

Bald Mountain summit.....5,550

VALLEY OF THE BIG IVY CREEK.

Dillingham's house below Yeates' Knob, or Big Butte.....2,508

Junction of the three forks, Roan Mountain.....2,270

Solomon Carter's house.....2,215

Stockville at Black Stock's.....2,216

Month of Frey River, by railroad survey.....1,681

FROM ASHEVILLE TO MOUNT PISGAH.

Asheville Court house.....2,250

Sulphur Springs—the spring.....2,092

Homing Cove at Solomon Davies'.....2,542

Little West Pisgah.....4,721

Great Pisgah.....5,757

PIGEON VALLEY.

Forks of Pigeon, at Colonel Cathey's.....2,701

East fork of Pigeon, at Captain T. Lenoir's.....2,855

Waynesville court house.....3,756

Sulphur Spring, Richland valley at James R. G. Love's.....2,716

Mr. Hill's farm on Crab Tree.....2,714

Crab Tree creek below Hill's.....2,254

Cold Mountain.....4,063

CHAIN OF THE RICHLAND BASALM.

Richland, between Richland creek and the west fork of Pigeon creek and at E. Medford's.....2,938

E. Medford's farm, foot of Lickston's mountain.....3,000

Lickston mountain.....5,707

Deep Spring Gap.....4,907

Cold Spring mountain.....5,915

Double Spring mountain.....6,380

Richland Balsam or Caney Fork Balsam Divide.....6,425

Chimney Top.....6,234

Spruce Ridge